Sl. No.	Particulars	Physical	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)
3.	Maintenance of Fire Inspection Roads and Fire lines	482 km.	45.52
4.	Hand tool sets for Department/villagers	670	12.31
5.	Fire fighting clothing and kit	4099	27.72
6.	Training to villagers	42	5.04
7.	Renovation of fire crew stations	9	21.00
8.	Rain water harvesting structure	7	3.75
9.	First Aid Kit	258	1.75
10.	Miscellaneous expenditure	—	4.60
	TOTAL		449.80

Toll system for National Highways

2088. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to establish a toll system for the entire National Highways;

(b) whether this toll system would be in perpetuity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI]: (a) Yes, Sir. Govt. has proposed levying of user fee on National Highway Sections converted from the existing 2-lane to 4-lane divided carriageway facility.

(b) Yes, Sir. Tolling will be in perpetuity.

(c) User fee would be levied on the National Highway Sections as and when they are upgraded from existing 2-lanes to 4-lane divided carriageway facility. Govt. has notified capping rates for user fee for different category of vehicles at June 1997 price level, which is as below—

Type of vehicle	Rate Per Km. Per Trip (in Rupee)
Car/Jeep/Van	0.40
Light Commercial Vehicles (Light Goods vehicles)	0.70
Trucks or buses	1.40
Heavy Construction Machinery and Earth Moving Equipment	3.00

The fee rate has been linked to the wholesale price index of a year to be determined on yearly basis.

Conversion of buses into CNG for Schools for Handicapped

†2089. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Delhi has not made any provision in their Budget for 2001-2002 for conversion of the buses into CNG for the schools for the handicapped;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the schools for the handicapped are being closed down as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, what directions the Central Government propose to give to State Government to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI]: (a) to (c) Conversion of school buses for the handicapped into CNG is the subject-matter of the Government of Delhi. The Central Government does not come into picture.

Annuity scheme for construction of Highways

2090. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that annuity scheme has been adopted for construction of highways under which contracts are handed out to construct and maintain highways and Government make annual payments to the company over 10 to 15 years;

(b) in what ways it is preferred over the toll system and whether it is viable to sustain the highway development programme especially in the light of international experience; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Indian companies cannot bid except through joint ventures with foreign firms and whether presently only Malaysian companies have been chosen for these projects?

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.